

## **Board of Trustee Planning Goals in 2008: Ventura College Response**

The following objectives were established by the Ventura County Community College District Board of Trustees in 2008. Listed beneath each objective are the activities that Ventura College is in the process of implementing in support of these objectives.

### **Objective 1: Strengthen district-wide student access, enrollment and success.**

- A. Continue the implementation of the Title V grant, which is designed to strengthen student success through the improvement of basic skills instruction.
- B. Expand the funding base to support the Ventura College Promise program.
- C. Expand the offering of online and hybrid classes.
- D. Establish an on-site Middle College at Ventura College.
- E. Identify program models that will attract and retain underserved student populations, including re-entry adults and first-generation college students. Apply for grant funds to support the implementation of pilot programs.

### **Objective 2: Strengthen District/College administrative operations and services in support of students and programs.**

- A. Implement CurricUNET, an online curriculum development system.
- B. Continue to enhance functionality of the Ventura College website.
- C. Continue the implementation of the College Technology Plan.

### **Objective 3: Develop and implement a comprehensive District-wide integrated Economic Development and Career Preparation program for Ventura County.**

- A. Pilot a modular, fast-track Career Academy program at Ventura College's East Campus.
- B. Expand community awareness of the Small Business Development Center.
- C. Increase the profile of career and technical education programs through high profile publications (including *Career Focus* and a brochure highlighting Ventura College career and contract education programs).
- D. Establish a WorkKeys testing and training center, both on the main Ventura College campus and at East Campus.
- E. Provide representation to community economic development organizations, including the Workforce Investment Board.

**Objective 4: Implement a District-wide classified staff development program tied to strengthening professional practices and excellent customer service.**

- A. Develop and schedule follow-up training activities that will reinforce customer service skills that will be taught in the District-wide classified staff development program.

**Objective 5: Create reasonable progressive increases in instructional productivity for Moorpark, Oxnard, and Ventura Colleges.**

- A. Continue to adjust instructional schedule to increase productivity by consolidating multiple sections of low-enrolled classes, shifting some minimally enrolled sections into the more heavily-enrolled online instructional mode, and where necessary, scheduling some courses over a multiple-semester rotation.

**Objective 6: Complete data driven updated Educational Master Plans for Moorpark, Oxnard, and Ventura Colleges.**

- A. Work with consultant to update the Ventura College Educational Master Plan.
- B. Begin the implementation of the preliminary East Campus Education Plan.

**Objective 7: Implement a CalPASS agreement countywide with district public schools. Strengthen College curricular cooperation and program alignment with high schools.**

- A. Continue to host discipline-specific program alignment meetings with high school faculty.
- B. Continue to host regional career and technical education meetings with area colleges and high schools.
- C. Continue to meet with area high school superintendents and principals.
- D. Assist the District Office in implementing the CalPASS agreement, utilizing resultant data to assist in making institutional decisions.

**Objective 8: Implement College participation in Service Learning Programs to strengthen College partnerships with their respective communities.**

- A. Continue participation in the regional Civic Engagement Consortium.
- B. Offer the newly-approved half-unit service learning course as an incentive for students who want to have service learning documented on their transcripts.
- C. Support Ventura City Corps with an educational component to focus on leadership and service learning.

**Objective 9: Strengthen College Science, Mathematics and Technical Education Programs to address the national shortage of scientists, engineers, and highly-skilled workers.**

- A. Continue the implementation of the Title V grant, designed to strengthen basic skills education in math, reading and English.
- B. Expand student participation in the MESA (Math Engineering Science Achievement) program.
- C. Hire an additional contract math instructor to meet student demand for course offerings in this subject discipline.
- D. As appropriate opportunities become available, seek additional grant funds to build and improve science, mathematics and technical education programs.

**Objective 10: Begin planning for the development of the District's Camarillo property.**

- A. Continue to work in partnership with the Sheriff's Department to develop a building that will serve the needs of the Sheriff's Academy.

**Objective 11: Assist local public schools in the maintenance of fine and performing arts programming.**

- A. Continue the expansion of the Ventura College Arts & Lectures series, to include some programming that would appeal to a wide variety of age groups
- B. Identify grant funding for campus/community cultural programs that will appeal to a wide variety of age groups

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**Ventura College Planning Goals for 2006-2008 (Based on Prior Board "Imperatives")**

The following planning "imperatives" were established by the Ventura County Community College District Board of Trustees in 2006. Listed beneath each imperative are the goals developed by Ventura College in support of these objectives.

**Board Imperative: Serve traditional and non-traditional learners**

**To assure that there will be no financial barriers to education for lower- and middle-income students,** Ventura College will:

- Work with the Ventura College Foundation to develop a program to underwrite the first-year enrollment fees for all qualifying graduating high school seniors in our service area
- Develop systems that will provide increased awareness of financial aid processes and greater assistance in completing financial aid forms and requirements

- Work with the Ventura College Foundation to expand public awareness of scholarship opportunities at both the community college and transfer levels

**To reach non-traditional and underserved populations, the college will:**

- Continue to support the development and expansion of East Campus opportunities for students in the Fillmore, Santa Paula, and Piru areas
- Expand the offering of online and hybrid classes
- Identify meaningful incentives to encourage more faculty to develop online classes
- Expand outreach efforts to increase concurrent enrollment of qualified high school students
- Provide opportunities for the faculty to become more aware of the multiple intelligences / learning styles
- Expand efforts to help those with a limited ability to speak English feel welcome on the campus
- Examine the structure of course offerings to ensure that the college can accommodate working adults
- Offer fast-track, low-unit classes that will appeal to retired adults
- Work with the Ventura College Foundation to expand the Dare to Dream scholarship program to encourage non-high school graduates to consider attendance at Ventura College
- Expand support services for a wide variety of unique student populations, including foreign students, re-entry students, out-of-state students, etc.

**Board Imperative: Maintain short-term training, school-to-work programs, internships, service learning, and student life programs**

**To improve the ability to respond more rapidly to the changing occupational needs of the community, Ventura College will:**

- Examine both campus and district curriculum systems to identify bottlenecks in the approval process
- Examine the number of units required for certificates and the course scheduling patterns for occupational programs to assure that the pathway to a career can be completed in a reasonable amount of time
- Reactivate occupational advisory committees for vocational programs

**To increase the visibility and viability of the college's occupational programs, Ventura College will:**

- Revise the organizational structure in order to provide better support for career education
- Develop and pilot one or more modular, fast-track occupational programs that will lead to employment within six months
- Participate in the development of a district-wide occupational brochure (with companion program-specific brochures) for recruitment and outreach purposes
- Market occupational programs in appropriate arenas; i.e., Chambers of Commerce, local newspapers
- Host on-campus meetings with employers, faculty, and counselors to discuss career trends
- Host meetings with counselors and faculty to increase understanding of vocational programs and requirements

- Increase faculty and administrative participation in local business organizations; i.e., Chamber of Commerce, Ventura County Economic Development Association
- Provide information on employment trends at flex day activities
- Increase services of the Career Center
- Encourage newspaper articles on successful students and programs

**To expand the opportunities for students to connect with others outside of the classroom,** Ventura College will:

- Take steps to re-establish an attractive, centralized social hub for the campus and to create pleasant study spaces for students at various locations throughout the college
- Develop a formal Arts & Lectures program and expand awareness of the college's consolidated calendar of campus events
- Continue to seek funding for and offer campus/community cultural programs
- Increase internships and work experience offerings
- Provide service learning opportunities and credit

**Board Imperative: Establish and maintain outstanding marketing, outreach and retention programs**

**To reach the predominantly younger student population served by the college,** Ventura College will:

- Improve the usefulness of its website, using input from faculty, staff and student focus groups
- Expand its recruitment efforts to include greater use of the web and other technologies designed to appeal to younger students
- Expand the use of technology as a teaching and learning tool
- Conduct research to identify how Ventura College students currently gain information about the college

**To improve student retention,** Ventura College will:

- Conduct institutional research to identify the major variables impacting student retention
- Develop and pilot programs that encourage students to identify and declare a commitment for a specific educational or occupational goal
- Develop and pilot systems to recognize benchmark levels of student achievement as they progress toward their identified goals
- Increase the opportunities for students to identify with a cohort and/or to work in a learning community
- Provide intervention programs to identify and assist students who may be falling below the expected level of student achievement
- Expand efforts to acquire funding to support tutoring and supplemental instruction
- Include the issue of student retention as a central focus for professional development activities

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